



Reentry Subcommittee

Measure J Funding Recommendations



Framing for the Reentry Subcommittee's Funding Recommendations

1) Focusing on Black LA County Residents

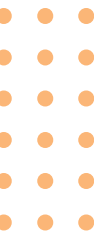
From the very beginning of the Reentry Subcommittee Process, Black Subcommittee Members have vocalized the importance of remembering the critical organizing that Black people across Los Angeles County did to mobilize voters and pass Measure J in November 2020.

Throughout each meeting, they elevated the need to have Black leadership in the Co-Chair role, and the need to have Black Women, Black Youth, and in general, Black People, be a focus of the Measure J investments because, as they shared, the African American community has disproportionately been harmed by systemic racism, over-policing, capitalism, and mass incarceration.

These Subcommittee Members made sure, throughout the Subcommittee Meeting process, to elevate the language and spirit of Measure J, which specifies an intentional focus to invest dollars and resources and build infrastructure in the African American community.

As the funding recommendations were developed and voted on in Meeting #5, Black participants requested these Subcommittee's Recommendations be submitted within the following context:

- *The voices of the Black Subcommittee Members should be amplified through a statement such as this;*
- *Since the funding recommendations did not specifically name Black People because of California Proposition 209's restrictions, the Measure J Advisory Committee should develop a strategy to advance racial equity; and*
- *The Advisory Committee should make a commitment to ensure that Measure J addresses the historic disinvestments and systemic racism that impact the Black community specifically, because, in doing this, all other communities of color and systems-impacted communities will benefit.*



2) Recommendations from Transgender Subcommittee Members on Transgender-related Funding Recommendations

During the Funding Recommendations process, Transgender participants who were actively engaged in the Reentry Subcommittee shared a number of ideas to strengthen the funding recommendations for this community. They reminded the Subcommittee that Transgender People are one of the most impacted groups when it comes to arrests, incarceration, and the Reentry community. In addition to what has been captured in the Reentry Subcommittee's funding recommendations, the following two requests were made to be included as a note before the funding recommendations:

1. *The concept of family should be expanded to include chosen family, given the stigma, transphobia, and/or rejection that Transgender People may experience from their blood relatives. The request was that as family is considered within the Measure J Recommendations, that the definition of family is expanded to include "chosen family" in addition to blood relatives.*
2. *For those organizations that will provide services to the Transgender community, preference should be given to Trans-led organizations.*

Slate #1:

Ensuring Measure J Funding Can Be Accessed by Community-Based Organizations

RECOMMENDATION #1:

Identify a Third Party Administrator (such as a foundation partner) to fund community-based organizations directly (through a Request for Quote process) and to support capacity building including tech support, professional development, and insurance requirements

- The Third Party Administrator should have expertise in Reentry
- Eligible nonprofit/community-based organizations (CBOs) must:
 - *Have an annual budget of less than \$1.5 million, or*
 - *Have a staff size of or less than 30 full-time employees, or*
 - *Be larger CBOs led by over 70% impacted leaders and are in service of the communities most impacted by incarceration and divestment with a proven track record of success*



- No County or City entities should be allowed to apply for this funding based on the inequities it would create
- CBOs in SPAs (Service Planning Areas) and zip codes of specific economic disadvantage and disproportionately impacted by LA County's carceral system must be prioritized
- The Third Party Administrator must be accountable to an advisory board of impacted community members (*such as the Reentry Health Advisory Collaborative, RHAC*)

Slate #2:

Community-Identified Priorities for Third Party Administrator Funding

RECOMMENDATION #2:

A Third Party Administrator will fund the following priorities for 2021-2022:

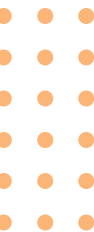
A) Reentry Services for Returning Women:

Fund and expand trauma-informed care services that provide service plans based on assessment of needs and barriers such as: case management; housing and rental assistance; substance use treatment; mental health services; education, employment, and vocational training; art and culture programs; paid internships; clothing support; family reunification, child support and family court services; and advocacy and legal services

B) Culturally-Affirming Family Reunification, Pre-Trial Family Support, and Parenting Classes and Groups:

Invest in family reunification models and connect returning parents to pre-trial family support, free parenting classes, and no-cost parenting groups provided by community organizations

- *These resources should be tailored to the unique needs of cisgender women who identify as mothers, as well as LGBTQI+ and Transgender-identified parents*





C) Support Services for Returning Transgender-Identified and LGBTQI+ Members:

Fund and expand programs, services and drop-in centers including: Reentry Services, Violence Prevention including Domestic Violence and Ending Human Trafficking, Workforce Development, Legal Services, Transitional Housing, Mental Health Services, Food Distribution, Gender-Affirming Clothing, Immigration Services, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, Technology Training and Access, HIV Prevention Services, and COVID-19 Prevention and Education

D) Short- and Long-Term Housing with Supportive Services:

Continue to fund programs that provide rental assistance to Returning Individuals in their first year after leaving incarceration. Provide funding to and create housing programs that provide systems navigation, financial literacy, technology support and training, life skills, vocational and technical training, reunification services, and trauma-informed and healing-centered care

- *Specifically seek to provide housing support for women with children, the elderly, and LGBTQI+ individuals*

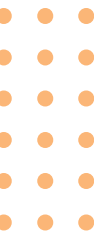
E) Community-Based Intervention, Reentry, and Anti-Recidivism Services:

i) Community-Based Intervention Services: Provide intervention services and programs to young people to prevent their involvement in the carceral system, such as:

- Transformative justice and community conflict resolution training
- Case management
- Academic and vocational training and support
- Arts and cultural programming that affirms their cultures
- Life skills training
- Violence interruption
- Services for survivors of human trafficking
- Interventions to dismantle the School-to-Prison Pipeline

ii) Community-Based Reentry and Anti-Recidivism Services: Provide services and programs to support reentry in the most impacted communities including:

- Transformative justice and community conflict resolution training
- Violence interruption



- Intensive reentry case management for youth and adults
- Arts and cultural programming that affirms their cultures
- Immigration services
- Tattoo removal
- Life skills workshops such as anger management and financial literacy
- Domestic violence classes
- Services for survivors of human trafficking

F) Service Coordination, Integration, Community Intervention Workers Outreach:

Provide grants for reentry outreach workers to network and build relationships within carceral facilities for both youth and adults to assist with the transition back into their home communities in order to:

- *Address the disconnect of returning community members lacking information regarding supportive services they can access,*
- *Lower the recidivism rate by working with the reentry population from the inside out, and,*
- *Prevent deportation of undocumented Returning Individuals after release and end the Prison-to-Deportation Pipeline*

G) Workforce and Professional Development:

Create and fund professional development and workforce development programs for Returning Individuals to become effective trauma-informed providers of systems navigation, case management, and substance abuse counseling—the vision of this recommendation is to empower those most affected by mass incarceration and systemic racism, rather than exclude them

H) Countywide Resource Hubs:

Fund and expand coordinated service hubs in the most impacted areas, as well as a 24-hour online resource hub where Returning Individuals, their families, and support networks can seek referral and/or immediate admission to a spectrum of trauma-informed and healing-centered services; these hubs will be coordinated by community-based organizations based in each respective area

